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SENATE BILL 2993
By Gilbert

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 70-4-102(c); Section 70-4-201(d); Section 70-6-202(b) and Title 70, Chapter 1, Part 1 relative to fish and wildlife violations.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. That Tennessee Code Annotated §70-4-102 is amended by deleting the language contained in subsection (c) and by substituting instead the following new language:

(c) A violation of this section is a Class B misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. That Tennessee Code Annotated Section 70-4-201 is amended by adding the following phrase to the end of the last sentence in subsection (d):

; except that any violation of this section involving wildlife valued at five hundred (\$500.00) dollars or more is a Class E felony.

SECTION 3. That Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 70-6-202 is amended by adding the following sentence at the end of subsection (b):

Provided however, notwithstanding any other provision of the law to the contrary, any truck, automobile, boat, airplane or other vehicle seized and forfeited under the provisions of subsection 70-6-202(a) may, with the approval of the executive director, be used in connection with fish and wildlife programs for a period not to exceed two years.

SECTION 4. That Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 70, Chapter 1, Part 1 is amended by adding a new appropriately designated section to read as follows:

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Section 70-1-105. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law to the contrary, all prosecutions for violations of Sections 70-4-116(b), 70-4-119 and 70-4-201 shall be commenced within two (2) years.

SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect on July 1, 1998, the public welfare requiring it.